

File

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

7 AUGUST 1961
~~TOP SECRET~~

1. Soviet space vehicle

The ship was brought back from space at approximately 3:30 this morning. We have only the word of Moscow that the astronaut landed in "excellent condition."

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Our latest information indicates that the landing place was in the same general area as Gagarin's.

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2. Congo developments

a) A nervous Tshombé has now agreed to send representatives to Parliament, provided the UN guarantees their safety;

b) The Adoula government is getting ready to try to expel foreign diplomatic representatives, including Soviets and Chinese Communists, from Stanleyville, where they no longer have the figment of a legal basis;

c) Gizenga is apparently still receiving military supplies from the UAR.

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3. Thais may be nearing acceptance of Soviet aid

[redacted] acceptance of Soviet aid offers in the near future is likely.

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[redacted]
growing Thai proclivity toward neutralism and of Soviet moves to exploit such an attitude.

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4. Cuban currency reform

The move will strengthen the regime's financial position in the short run, and, by giving it control of savings, will also provide an effective new political lever. The Cubans who will be hardest hit are already pretty thoroughly disaffected, but some opposition may be aroused among certain groups of urban workers whose modest savings are threatened.

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NOTES

A. Taipei has expressed general satisfaction with Chen's Washington talks to our chargé. Chiang Kai-shek is said to be especially impressed by the President's assurances of continued US support.

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B. Nkrumah has decided to attend the neutralist conference after learning that Nehru will be there. Many other neutralist chiefs can be expected to follow suit, thus adding to the conference's impact.

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D. Moroccan security officials remain braced for an outbreak of demonstrations but are fuzzy about the dates. The US-French base at Kenitra is described as in a state of "quiet alert."

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